



West Lothian Community Planning Partnership

2018/19 Annual Report

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Introduction

Welcome to the West Lothian Community Planning Partnership's (CPP's) annual report for 2018/19. The report highlights the progress made by the CPP over the last year, particularly in relation to delivering the CPP's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans, as well as some of the challenges the CPP faces.

What is Community Planning?

Community planning is about getting the people who live and work in an area together to improve how local services are planned and delivered, to make life better for people. The West Lothian Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is made up of 21 partners from the public, voluntary and private sectors.

What are Locality Plans?

CPPs are also required to develop locality plans for smaller areas experiencing poorer outcomes. In West Lothian, 13 regeneration plans were already being developed for the areas in the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). These were adopted as the CPP's locality plans and will be referred to as the regeneration plans throughout this report. These plans set out the specific themes, priorities and actions for the local area.

What is the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)?

The LOIP is a ten year plan which sets out the CPP's eight priority outcomes and how we will work together to improve these to make sure that we provide an improved quality of life for everyone everyone who lives, works and does business in West Lothian.

Annual Report 2018/19

This annual report highlights progress in achieving the ambitions set out in the LOIP and the regeneration plans throughout 2018/19, using key performance data and case studies. The report also highlights the ways in which the CPP has involved communities in service design and delivery and outlines the development activity that the CPP is undertaking to ensure that the structure and working practices of the partnership are as effective as possible.

The CPP's eight local outcomes are aligned to four key themes:

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
- Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life
- We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities

ECONOMIC

- We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities
- Our economy is diverse and dynamic and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing business



- We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities
- People most at risk are protected and supported to achieve improved life chances



 We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment

It should be noted that the LOIP is currently under review and it is likely that these outcomes will be revised going forward.

LOIP: how are we doing?

The following pages outline key performance information and case studies for each of the LOIP themes.

Note on Performance Data

A suite of performance indicators (PIs) have been identified to allow the CPP to measure progress in achieving our eight LOIP outcomes. These PIs are regularly monitored by the Community Planning Steering Group and CPP Board. This annual report includes a handful of these PIs to illustrate how we are doing.

2018/19 data has been included where this is available; however sometimes there is a delay in data availability. Where 2018/19 data hasn't yet been published, the latest available data is provided.

Targets have been identified for each PI to give a clear sense of what we are aiming for and to allow us to assess whether we are making as much progress as we should be. The targets are set to be achievable and realistic. The following symbols are used to demonstrate how we are doing against each PI:



Data shows improving trend and/ or achieving target



Getting there but not quite achieving target



Data shows static or declining trend and not on track to achieve target

Health & Wellbeing



% of children in poverty

26%



Increased from 21.9% in previous period



Premature mortality rate

(European Age Standardised Rate per 100,000 population <75)

410 (2017/18)* Target: 411



Reduced from previous period and well below Scottish rate of 425



Proportion of last 6 months of life spent at home or in a community setting

88%

Target: 89%



Steady improvement from 86% in 2013/14



% council tenancies sustained after 12 months for previously homeless people

91.3%



(Q4 2018/19) Target: 86%

Continued high degree of tenancy sustainment

*Latest available data



Mental Health and Wellbeing Partnership between the Brock Trust and West Lothian College

- West Lothian College students gained valuable volunteering experience by supporting the Brock – a social enterprise and charity that supports the ongoing recovery of people with long standing mental health problems. An increasing number of college students are living with mental health conditions or poor mental health.
- Last year the Brock gifted a handmade bench and planters to help students create a mindful space for all to enjoy. A successful pilot of therapeutic workshops with students with mental health challenges and anxiety was rolled out, with the possibility of running future therapeutic workshops to benefit the wider student population in managing their mental health and wellbeing.
- Students have also set up and ran pop-up shops selling plants, crafts and woodwork from the Brock, raising over £2,000.
- The college and the Brock will continue to develop joint working.

School holiday hunger

- Holiday activity programmes were held in 2018/19 to provide a nutritious meal during the school holidays, to improve the health and wellbeing of children living in low income households. The aim is to reduce the impact of school holidays on family budgets, increase nourishment, reduce hunger and maintain learning through offering a range of activities.
- Programmes are delivered in areas with highest levels
 of eligibility for free school meal and school clothing
 grant, target low income families and are delivered
 along with partners who know and understand the
 community.
- During the 2018 summer holiday, 15 venues provided over 800 places and in the October holidays there were 12 venues with 350 places available.

Community Wellbeing Hubs

- Community wellbeing hubs have been developed in Livingston and Boghall, to offer support to adults aged 18-65 with mild to moderate mental health problems. Services will be provided through a community link worker and wellbeing service, including support from psychologists, mental health occupational therapists and practitioners offering mindfulness, yoga and relaxation classes.
- The service will offer early intervention through a person-centred approach to help people manage their symptoms and improve their wellbeing. The focus will be on ensuring that people have access to meaningful and effective community supports as an alternative to seeing their GP.

Economic



% working age adults in work

76.1%

(2018), Target: 75%

Based on an estimated 89,500 in work. Decreased slightly from 2017 but higher than Scottish level



% school leavers entering positive destinations

93.3%

(2017/18)*Target: 95%

Steady improvement over the last 5 years



Total number of jobs in West Lothian

78,000

(2017/18)" Target: 75,000

A slight reduction from 78,500 in 2016/17



% of employees earning less than the Living Wage

18%

(2018/19) Target 17%



Increased slightly from 17% in 2017 but still below Scottish average of 19%.



Number of new homes completed annually in West Lothian

934

Target: 500

Substantial increase on previous years. 422 units were affordable units.



*Latest available data



Jobs Task Force

- The Jobs Task Force involves the Scottish Government, UK Government, Scottish Enterprise, West Lothian Council and West Lothian College and has a target to create 460 high-value jobs by 2021 through job grant support – mainly focused on supporting jobs paying £25,000+ per annum. Firms also need to demonstrate their commitment to accredited training and upskilling staff.
- 1-in-5 new posts must be offered to candidates from the most deprived communities in West Lothian and posts must pay at least the Living Wage.
- In 2018/19, over 120 jobs were directly supported through the Jobs Task Force and further significant jobs investment has since been secured. This will deliver a total of over 300 new jobs supported in 2019/20 towards the Jobs Task Force target.

PACE

- Partnership Action for Continuing Employment (PACE)
 is an additional, practical and results-focused service
 delivered by Skills Development Scotland, Job Centre
 Plus, West Lothian College and Scottish Enterprise, to
 co-ordinate support to tackle larger-scale
 redundancies and help people find work quickly.
- PACE services were delivered to support 310 Kaiam staff made redundant on Christmas Eve in 2018.
- Local firms, who could demonstrate current vacancies, were invited to a Jobs Fair in Bathgate. PACE delivered over 250 ex-Kaiam staff, many of which were successfully recruited. This was the most successful event that PACE has ever delivered in West Lothian.

Helping Young People Engage (HYPE)

- The Helping Young People Engage (HYPE)
 Programme offers employability focused learning opportunities to young people most in need of support to grow self-confidence, address barriers to moving on to their 'next step' and develop a range of life skills.
- These courses are delivered by Community Learning and Development Youth Services through partnership working with local businesses and training providers.
- Young people can access specialist support to build on their numeracy, literacy and employability skills. At the end of each course all young people
- are awarded a HYPE certificate giving details of the practical and 'soft' skills that they have learned during the course. HYPE courses are closely linked to the opportunities in the local labour market and support young people to learn about careers and gain practical skills.
- In 2018/19, HYPE achieved its highest outcomes to date with 85% positive destinations; this is a 9 percentage point increase compared to the previous year.







Safer Communities



Number of deliberate secondary fires per 10,000 population

39.1%



10% increase on 2017/19. No target set – aim for continuous improvement



Antisocial Behaviour Incidents per 10,000 population



A reduction from 584.1 last year



% of cases where positive progress can be evidenced at the 6 month Looked After Child review





Continued strong performance



% of young people under the age of 22 who were previously looked after who go on to receive a custodial sentence

(2018/19)Target 7%



Strong level of improvement on previous years



% residents who feel they can influence decisions

Target: 46%

Decrease from 46% in 2013

*Latest available data

West Lothian Youth Disorder

- In 2018, increased partnership participation and actions were developed to respond to increased issues of low level antisocial behaviour involving young people in a particular area of West Lothian.
 Partnership meetings were held with the young people and their families and support packages were put into place, providing support, interventions, diversionary strategies and advice to help prevent the young people engaging in further antisocial behaviour.
- Efforts were also made to reassure local residents that community safety partners were listening to complaints. Environmental Visual Audits of the area were carried out with a view to minimising risk and opportunity for young people to engage in antisocial behaviour.
- The incidents of antisocial behaviour reduced and the young people began to show signs of being more responsible for their actions and engaging willingly with services. An exit strategy was put into place for each of the young people involved.
- A reduction in antisocial behaviour has also resulted in positive feedback from the local community. This has been maintained into the summer of 2019.



Blackburn Bonfire Night Action Group (BBNAG)

- A new multi-agency action group has been established to look at reducing antisocial behaviour during the bonfire season, led by the Blackburn's Future Group and involving public sector, voluntary sector and members of the community.
- An action plan has been developed. Specific themes include: community engagement, trust and communication; high visibility of agencies, joint Environmental Visual Audits; litter and removing of combustible waste; education and awareness of all ages; and diversionary activities and organised events.
- Community engagement/information events have been scheduled and will provide the community with up to date information on ongoing work
- The BBNAG will meet monthly up to August and then fortnightly to ensure a consistent approach to the action plan and to deliver interventions.
- This demonstrates how a community are tackling a local issue in a positive way.



West Lothian Energy Forum

- An estimated 21% of households in West Lothian are experiencing fuel poverty, with 6% of households in extreme fuel poverty. West Lothian Energy Forum works to promote collaboration across all organisations providing energy advice, with the long term aim of alleviating fuel poverty.
- Organisations involved are:- WLC (Advice Shop & Building Services), Home Energy Scotland, Almond Housing, Edinburgh and Lothian Regional Equalities Council (ELREC) and Transitions Linlithgow.
- The forum meet regularly to share good practice, encourage co-production of strategies and plans, jointly work on projects and events and look at ways to improve the provision of energy advice throughout

West Lothian. This partnership working ensures there are clear lines of referrals between all of the members of the energy advice forum.

- Home Energy Scotland provides free training to all partners within the forum, which is vital to keep all the partners updated on all funding schemes.
- In 2018/19, the forum members engaged with over 1,200 households in West Lothian.
- In addition, ELREC was able to provide energy advice to those in our community where English is not a first language, providing an essential service to those who otherwise would not be able to access mainstream services.

Food Growing Strategy

 Partners and the communities have been engaged in development of the council's Food Growing Strategy, which sets out the plan to increase opportunities for food growing.

- The events were well attended, many connections were made and an enthusiasm for food growing in West Lothian was invigorated. An online survey was also carried out for anyone interested in growing to give their feedback, and discussions on food growing were had with the Experts by Experience focus group.
- All this feedback from the community is directly informing the strategy from 2020 to 2025.
- One group going from strength to strength is
 Winchburgh Community
 Growing Group, who have placed wooden planters, with edible plants and flowers, throughout the village. Local people look after them and anyone is free to help themselves to the produce when it's ready to be harvested. The group has now located their 50th planter, and they're making plans to create a community garden.



Regeneration Plans: how are we doing?

CPPs are required to prepare and publish locality plans for the areas experiencing poorer outcomes, setting out a plan for how outcomes will be improved within that area.

In West Lothian, local regeneration plans have been, or are being, developed to focus on communities with datazones in the bottom 20% of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

13 individual plans are being developed in the following areas: Addiewell, Armadale, Bathgate, Blackburn, Bridgend, Craigshill, Dedridge, Fauldhouse, Knightsridge, Ladywell, Polbeth, Stoneyburn and Whitburn.

Steering Groups are in place in all of these areas, allowing representatives of community groups, residents, local public services and voluntary sector to work in partnership. Ward members for each regeneration area are also invited to meetings.

The plans were shaped by the community and provide a good understanding of community assets, needs and circumstances. Input from partners has brought local knowledge, experience and resource. It is hoped that partners will reshape their services to meet the needs of the community based on the local information and structures. The Steering Groups will update the plans as part of a continuous process.

The plans are bottom-up and in many cases community-led with a central role for key community organisations, which can enable community responses to community needs.

Ongoing work is looking to more fully integrate the local plans to the LOIP and other strategic plans, such as the Anti-Poverty Strategy.

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation is due to be update in late 2019. 2019 data will be used to ensure ongoing focus in the right places.



Examples of local partnership working

Whilst regeneration plans are all a slightly different points there are activities across all areas. Some examples are highlighted below.

Aspiring West Lothian

- The Aspiring West Lothian project was resourced by the Scottish Government's Aspiring Communities Fund and involved a consortium of five community organisations operating in regeneration areas.
 Development Workers were employed by each organisation for 16 months to help build their capacity and deliver new projects and activities in their communities, in response to identified local needs and desires.
- Examples of activities include developing new structures to run local community facilities, developing a local Parkrun, supporting financial and legal developments and a range of locally identified projects.
- This has left a legacy of stronger community development organisations, new activity groups, many supported by volunteers, and some of the organisations have managed to source funding to continue developing new activities and projects.





Whitburn Education Outreach Pilot

- West Lothian Council, Whitburn Academy, West Lothian College and Whitburn Community Development Trust have developed plans to pilot outreach work by the college in the town.
- Given the likely increasing demand for childcare workers as a result of the new commitment of 30 hours free childcare for all 3-4 year olds, the college will deliver a fully accredited childcare course throughout the 2019/20 school year. The other services involved will identify opportunities where
- they can provide additional support to participants where need be and offer other support.
- Complementing this, the local partnership of services have engaged with the local primary schools in the town to identify how they can support family learning within the town. Partners are developing a resource and input to support teaching staff to better identify and refer parents and families to these services.

Community Food

- Community Food focussed projects have been developed by partners to support health and wellbeing themes.
- The Dale Pantry Project provides a community fridge and freezer situated in a purpose built shed within the community garden in the Dale Hub. A community drop in café is also being developed on site to provide a comfortable social meeting space for local people along with school uniform swop shop to help families with the cost of the school day.
- Partners in Craigshill, led by Almond Housing, are designing an information leaflet on where residents can access free food locally. This links to the community fridge and food foraging learning sessions for local planting and Craigsfarm's vouchers.

Early Years and Family Support in Livingston

In the key areas in Craigshill, Dedridge, Ladywell and Knightsridge 4 key priorities emerged through evidence gathered from statistics, mapping of service and organisations and community consultation:

- Evidence gathered in Craigshill, Dedridge, Ladywell and Knightsridge informed 4 key priorities: ante natal support; speech and language; literacy and numeracy; and positive life experiences.
- Specific activities have been identified around breastfeeding support-peer support/family support sessions; baby brain and key development sessions for all the family; and maximising income.
- In response Kidzeco, a social enterprise, launched their new community hub space 'Kidz N Kin' in The Centre in Livingston. Recently awarded funding from NHS Health Improvement Funding for infant feeding, weaning and maternal health, and peoples lottery, Kidz N Kin will be offering a range of activities including parental support, soft play, café area and spaces to hire out for meetings and activity sessions.



Community Involvement

The CPP has a number of other mechanisms in place to enable and support communities to actively participate in community planning.

Supporting Communities: The CPP received support from the Scottish Community Development Centre to improve community involvement in community

Equalities: The CPP continues to support community equality forums in order to gain an understanding of the diverse experiences of our communities. The forums also organise activities to promote cultural and religious diversity in our communities, e.g. the West Lothian Faith

Citizens Panel: The West Lothian Citizens Panel is another way that the CPP gathers local residents' views on various aspects of living in West Lothian. There are currently around 2,800 members of the Panel, who are

Community Empowerment Act: A community empowerment awareness-raising session was held in November 2018 to raise awareness of different parts of the Act to local community groups. Presentations have also been made to the Joint Forum of West

planning. As a result a short-life multi-agency working group has been set up to take forward the identified areas for improvement.

Group 'Pathways to Peace' event. The West Lothian Community Race Forum has also been supported to improve race relations in West Lothian.

reflective of the population in terms of age, gender, tenure, ethnicity and multi-member ward. The CPP is currently exploring more innovative ways to use the Panel to engage with local residents.

Lothian Community Councils and awareness-raising materials and guidance have also been shared widely. Efforts have also been made to promote the process to 'seldom heard' groups (e.g. community equality forums, regeneration groups).

'Experts by Experience' Panel: The 'Experts by Experience' Panel was established to ensure that the actions and activities of the Anti-Poverty Strategy for 2018-2023 are informed by the views and suggestions of the people who have experience of living on a low income. The panel meets monthly to focus on particular aspects of poverty, to listen and consider the proposed activities and offer their views on how this could be taken forward to make sure the help reaches those who need it most. Members are also consulted via e-mail or telephone to suit their individual needs.

The members come from various backgrounds and are enthusiastic about making a difference in West Lothian:

"I joined because I want to help others, and to make a positive impact in the county as a whole."

"I joined the panel so I could increase my knowledge of the local community and the on offer to low income families."

"I was pleased to volunteer. I have considerable experience in community development; therefore, I am pleased to share these experiences for the benefit of residents of West Lothian."

"I joined to help others and to help make a difference to the people of West Lothian."

Developing the CPP

A development day was held in March 2018 for partners to discuss how to improve the structure and working practices of the CPP. The session was very well attended and a number of key actions were developed.

A number of positive changes have already been made...

CPP Board: Meetings have been taken out of the council chambers and into the community and are now themed around specific issues. These changes have been

positively received by partners and have encouraged more discussion and development of partnership actions.

CPP structure: The CPP thematic groups have been reviewed to ensure their role within the CPP and their link to the LOIP is clear. The Anti-Poverty Taskforce has replaced the Anti-Poverty Board, in order to refocus and re-energise the governance of the Anti-Poverty Strategy. A new thematic

group, the Health and Wellbeing Partnership has also been set up to focus on health, inequalities and prevention at a strategic level, with a focus on adopting a determinants of health and a whole system approach involving a broad range of partners. This is chaired by NHS Lothian.

Community involvement: The Supporting Communities Working Group will report back to the CPP Board on specific actions to improve community involvement in community planning, including a proposed mechanism for involvement and improved CPP communications, including a new locally focused CPP website.

Moving Forward...

It has been agreed that the **LOIP will be reviewed** to ensure this focuses on a smaller number of priority issues that can only be tackled by working in partnership. The new LOIP will be informed by the regeneration plans to better align these local and strategic plans.

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